



## Security Council

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### STATEMENT BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

At the 3762nd meeting of the Security Council, held on 4 April 1997 in connection with the Council's consideration of the item entitled "The situation in the Great Lakes region", the President of the Security Council made the following statement on behalf of the Council:

"The Security Council reiterates its deep concern about the alarming situation of refugees and displaced persons in eastern Zaire.

"The Security Council underlines the obligation of all concerned to respect the relevant provisions of international humanitarian law.

"The Security Council, while noting that some cooperation has recently been extended to humanitarian relief agencies by the Alliance of Democratic Forces for the Liberation of Congo/Zaire (ADFL), strongly urges the parties, and in particular the ADFL, to ensure unrestricted and safe access by United Nations agencies and other humanitarian organizations to guarantee the provision of humanitarian assistance to, and the safety of, all refugees, displaced persons and other affected civilian inhabitants.

"The Security Council also urges the ADFL to cooperate fully with the United Nations in the implementation of the repatriation plan for eastern Zaire of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees. In this context, it calls on the Government of Rwanda to facilitate the implementation of this plan.

"The Security Council will remain actively seized of the matter."

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